

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.*

1. (Previously Presented) A spacer made of a metal and interposed between opposed faces of two members having respective bores co-axial with each other and fastened to each other by inserting a fastening member into the bores and tightening the fastening member, the spacer comprising:

a base interposed between the opposed faces of the members and having a through hole co-axial with the bores of the respective members so that the fastening member is inserted through the hole, the base lying in a plane and the through hole being coplanar with the base;

a temporarily retaining portion extending directly from an open edge of the hole of the base in a direction substantially perpendicular to said plane for temporarily retaining the overall spacer on one of the members before the members are fastened to each other, the temporarily retaining portion being inserted into the bore of said one member and caught on a wall defining the bore; and

the temporarily retaining portion having a pair of projections formed on respective opposite sides of a distal end thereof so that the projections extend in a circumferential direction of the hole of the base, each projection including a lower edge formed to be upwardly inclined when the temporarily retaining portion is inserted into the bore of said one member, each projection being brought into sliding

contact with the open edge of the bore of said one member so that the overall spacer is moved toward a central axis of the bore of said one member.

2. (Original) A spacer according to claim 1, which has a surface to which an insulating coating is applied.

3. (Original) A spacer according to claim 1, wherein the temporarily retaining portion is located at an outer peripheral side of the fastening member so as to be non-contact with the fastening member.

4. (Original) A spacer according to claim 1, wherein the temporarily retaining portion is flexibly bent at the open edge of the hole of the base so as to extend substantially axially and is in contact with the wall of the bore with a spring force pressing the temporarily retaining portion against the wall.

5. (Original) A spacer according to claim 4, wherein a plurality of the temporarily retaining portions are provided on the open edge of the hole of the base at regular intervals.

6. (Original) A spacer according to claim 4, wherein the temporarily retaining portion includes a root portion and two slits formed in both widthwise ends of the root portion so as to extend from the open edge of the hole axially outward, respectively.

7. (Original) A spacer according to claim 1, wherein the temporarily retaining portion has a falling-off preventing claw formed thereon by cutting a part thereof and raising the cut part, so as to be engaged with the wall of the bore of said one member.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A spacer according to claim 1, wherein both projections are stamped out of the base while lower edges of the projections are inclined from the lower edge of the temporarily retaining portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A spacer according to claim 1, wherein both projections are stamped out of the base while the lower edges of the projections are substantially coplanar with the lower edge of the temporarily retaining portion, and thereafter, both projections are bent inward along bending edges between the temporarily retaining portion and the projections, respectively, whereupon the lower edges of the projections are inclined relative to the lower edge of the temporarily retaining portion, the projections being bent toward the axial center of the bore of said one member at the respective bending edges.

11. (Original) A spacer according to claim 9, wherein both projections are bent outward along bending edges between the temporarily retaining portion and the projections so that side edges of the projections engage the wall of the bore of said one member, whereby the overall spacer is temporarily held, respectively, the

projections being bent toward the axial center of the bore of said one member at the respective bending edges.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).